

the taxable year (other than the section 45 credit).

“(B) SECTION 45 CREDIT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘section 45 credit’ means the credit determined under section 45 to the extent that such credit is attributable to electricity produced—

“(i) at a facility which is originally placed in service after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, and

“(ii) during the 4-year period beginning on the date that such facility was originally placed in service.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (2)(A)(i)(II) of section 38(c) of such Code is amended by striking “or” and inserting a comma and by inserting “, and the section 45 credit” after “employee credit”.

(B) Paragraph (3)(A)(ii)(II) of section 38(c) of such Code is amended by inserting “and the section 45 credit” after “employee credit”.

(f) ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN CREDIT REDUCTIONS.—Section 45(b)(3)(A) (relating to credit reduced for grants, tax-exempt bonds, subsidized energy financing, and other credits) is amended—

(1) by striking clause (ii),

(2) by redesignating clauses (iii) and (iv) as clauses (ii) and (iii),

(3) by inserting “(other than proceeds of an issue of State or local government obligations the interest on which is exempt from tax under section 103, or any loan, debt, or other obligation incurred under subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 7 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Incentives Act of 2003)” after “project” in clause (ii) (as so redesignated),

(4) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “This paragraph shall not apply with respect to any facility described in subsection (d)(2)(A)(ii).”, and

(5) by striking “TAX-EXEMPT BONDS,” in the heading and inserting “CERTAIN”.

(g) TREATMENT OF PERSONS NOT ABLE TO USE ENTIRE CREDIT.—Section 45(e) (relating to definitions and special rules), as redesignated by subsection (b)(1), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) TREATMENT OF PERSONS NOT ABLE TO USE ENTIRE CREDIT.—

“(A) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection—

“(I) any credit allowable under subsection (a) with respect to a qualified facility owned by a person described in clause (ii) may be transferred or used as provided in this paragraph, and

“(II) the determination as to whether the credit is allowable shall be made without regard to the tax-exempt status of the person.

“(ii) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—A person is described in this clause if the person is—

“(I) an organization described in section 501(c)(12)(C) and exempt from tax under section 501(a),

“(II) an organization described in section 1381(a)(2)(C),

“(III) a public utility (as defined in section 136(c)(2)(B)), which is exempt from income tax under this subtitle,

“(IV) any State or political subdivision thereof, the District of Columbia, any possession of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of any of the foregoing, or

“(V) any Indian tribal government (within the meaning of section 7871) or any agency or instrumentality thereof.

“(B) TRANSFER OF CREDIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A person described in subparagraph (A)(ii) may transfer any credit to which subparagraph (A)(i) applies through

an assignment to any other person not described in subparagraph (A)(ii). Such transfer may be revoked only with the consent of the Secretary.

“(ii) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as necessary to ensure that any credit described in clause (i) is assigned once and not reassigned by such other person.

“(iii) TRANSFER PROCEEDS TREATED AS ARISING FROM ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT FUNCTION.—Any proceeds derived by a person described in subclause (III), (IV), or (V) of subparagraph (A)(ii) from the transfer of any credit under clause (i) shall be treated as arising from the exercise of an essential government function.

“(C) USE OF CREDIT AS AN OFFSET.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of a person described in subclause (I), (II), or (V) of subparagraph (A)(ii), any credit to which subparagraph (A)(i) applies may be applied by such person, to the extent provided by the Secretary of Agriculture, as a prepayment of any loan, debt, or other obligation the entity has incurred under subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 7 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Incentives Act.

“(D) CREDIT NOT INCOME.—Any transfer under subparagraph (B) or use under subparagraph (C) of any credit to which subparagraph (A)(i) applies shall not be treated as income for purposes of section 501(c)(12).

“(E) TREATMENT OF UNRELATED PERSONS.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2)(B), sales of electricity among and between persons described in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be treated as sales between unrelated parties.”.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to electricity produced and sold after December 31, 2003, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) CERTAIN BIOMASS FACILITIES.—With respect to any facility described in section 45(d)(3)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by subsection (b)(1), which is placed in service before January 1, 2004, the amendments made by this section shall apply to electricity produced and sold after December 31, 2003, in taxable years ending after such date.

(3) CREDIT RATE AND PERIOD FOR NEW FACILITIES.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall apply to electricity produced and sold after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

(4) NONAPPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO PREEFFECTIVE DATE POULTRY WASTE FACILITIES.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply with respect to any poultry waste facility (within the meaning of section 45(c)(3)(C), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act) placed in service before January 1, 2004.

(5) CREDIT ALLOWED AGAINST REGULAR AND MINIMUM TAX.—The amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(i) GAO STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the market viability of producing electricity from resources with respect to which credit is allowed under section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 but without such credit. In the case of open-loop biomass and municipal solid waste resources, the study should take into account savings associated with not having to dispose of such resources. In conducting such study, the Comptroller shall estimate the dollar value of the environmental impact of producing electricity from such resources relative to producing

electricity from fossil fuels using the latest generation of technology. Not later than June 30, 2006, the Comptroller shall report on such study to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 23, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on the Atomic Energy Defense activities of the Department of Energy, in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. to conduct a hearing on “Review of Current Investigations and Regulatory Actions Regarding the Mutual Fund Industry.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 10 a.m., on Passenger and Freight Rail Safety.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 23rd at 2:00 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing to examine the “United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”.

The meeting will be held in SD 406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on U.S. & Mexico: Immigration Policy and the Bilateral Relationship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. for a joint hearing with the House Committee on Government Reform, titled “The Postal Service in Crisis: A Joint Senate-House

Hearing on Principles for Meaningful Reform.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 10 a.m. on “A Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Preserve Traditional Marriage” in the Russell Senate Office Building Room 325.

Panel I: The Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, U.S. Senator, R-CO, The Honorable BARNEY FRANK, U.S. Representative, D-MA, The Honorable JOHN LEWIS, U.S. Representative, D-GA.

Panel II: Ms. Phyllis G. Bossin, Phyllis G. Bossin Co., L.P.A., Chair, American Bar Association, Family Law Section, Cincinnati, OH, Professor Teresa Stanton Collett, Professor of Law, St. Thomas University School of Law, Minneapolis, MN, Reverent Richard Richardson, Assistant Pastor, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, Director of Political Affairs, The Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, President/CEO, Children's Services of Roxbury, Boston, MA, Professor Katherine S. Spaht, Jules F. and Frances L. Landry Professor, Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, Professor Cass R. Sunstein, Karl N. Llewellyn Distinguished Service Professor of Jurisprudence, University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, IL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. on “Counterfeiting and Theft of Tangible Intellectual Property: Challenges and Solutions” in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Panel I: The Honorable Jon W. Dudas, Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC, The Honorable Christopher Wray, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC, Mr. James Mendenhall, Assistant United States Trade Representative for Intellectual Property, Office of the United States Trade Representative, Washington, DC, The Honorable Earl Anthony Wayne, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, United States Department of State, Washington, DC.

Panel II: Mr. Thomas J. Donohue, President and CEO, United States Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Richard K. Willard, Senior Vice President, Legal and General Counsel, The Gillette Company, Boston, MA, Mr. Brad Buckles, Executive Vice President for Anti-Piracy, Recording Industry Association

of America, Washington, DC, Ms. Vanessa Price, Intellectual Property Specialist, Burton Snowboards, Burlington, VT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 23, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet Tuesday, March 23, 2004 from 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications be authorized to Meet Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., on Spyware.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 23, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on Department of Defense financial management in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Emily Deimel of my staff be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to the provisions of S. Con. Res. 94, 108th Congress, appoints the following Senators to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies: the Senator from Tennessee, Mr. FRIST; the Senator from Mississippi, Mr. LOTT; and the Senator from Connecticut, Mr. DODD.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 108-136, Title XV, Section 1501(b)(1)(C), appoints the following individual to serve on the Veteran's Disability Benefits Commission: Mr. Charles Joeckel of Washington, DC.

AUTHORIZING SENATE LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 323, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 323) to authorize legal representation in United States of America v. Elena Ruth Sassower.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this resolution concerns representation by the Senate legal counsel of five Members and four of their employees who have been subpoenaed to provide testimony and documents in a criminal trial by a defendant charged with disrupting proceedings at a hearing of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary in May 2003. These subpoenas are not well taken. As the testimony and documents sought by these subpoenas are either irrelevant or cumulative of the testimony and evidence that will be offered at trial from other sources, evidence from these Senators and Senate employees is unnecessary. Moreover, under controlling precedent, the testimony and documents sought by the subpoenas are privileged under the Speech or Debate Clause of the Constitution.

This resolution would authorize the Senate legal counsel to represent the Senators and staff who have been subpoenaed by the defendant, as well as any other Members, officers, or employees who may be subpoenaed, in order to quash the subpoenas and protect the privileges of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 323) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 323

Whereas, in the case of United States of America v. Elena Ruth Sassower, Crim. No. M-4113-3, pending in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, the defendant has served subpoenas for testimony and documents upon Senators ORRIN HATCH, PATRICK LEAHY, SAXBY CHAMBLISS, HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, and CHARLES SCHUMER, and on Senate employees Tamera Luzzatto, Chief of Staff to Senator Clinton, Leecia Eve, Counsel to Senator Clinton, Joshua Albert, Legislative Correspondent to Senator Clinton, and Michael Tobman, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for Senator Schumer; and,

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 288c(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent Members, officers, and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or